

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

LIMERKENS *et al.*

Group Art Unit: TBA

Application No.: TBA

Examiner: TBA

Filed: July 26, 2001

FOR: FOAMED THERMOPLASTIC POLYURETHANES

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July 26, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent
(including the amended claims 1-21 as attached to the IPER) in the manner set forth below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At the top of the first page, just under the title, insert

--This application is the National Phase of International Application
PCT/EP00/00039 filed January 5, 2000 which designated the U.S. and that
International Application was published under PCT Article 21(2) in English.--

**Page 2, please delete the paragraph starting at line 1, and replace it with the
following new paragraph:**

--The present invention thus concerns a process for the preparation of foamed thermoplastic
polyurethanes whereby the foaming of the thermoplastic polyurethane is carried out in the
presence of thermally expandable microspheres and in the presence of an additional blowing

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